

**REMARKS**

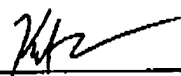
In an Office Action dated October 8, 2003, (hereinafter Office Action), all pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 or under 35 U.S.C. §103 as either anticipated or obvious in view of Tanaka (JP 09-139543), Abe, et al. (US 5,559,819), Hayashi (US 6,319,742), Morita (US 6,232,623), Kume (US 5,923,690), Jie, et al. (US 6,287,884), Takhashi (US 4,750,183), Bour (US 5,509,024). In response, Applicant has amended the claims and respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose the claimed amendments.

In view of the preceding amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are allowable over the cited prior art references.

The undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney (or agent) hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

If Examiner believes that a teleconference would facilitate prosecution of this application, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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January 8, 2004